Answer:—

(1 to 6) "The Honourable Member must surely be a spiritual descendant of the 'Grand Old Duke of York.' It is implicit in his Question that wheat grown on the Central Highlands should for ever be transported to the south-eastern corner of the State and there gristed. In turn his Question envisages that flour should forever reach Central and North Queensland from remote southern mills at an unnecessarily high price. The Government rejects such a concept on two counts. In the first place it has a duty to support measures designed to reduce the cost of living in Central and North Queensland. Secondly, it favours the development of Queensland on a decentralised basis. To provide freight rebates would destroy the prospects of such a development. In any case, the general taxpayer should not be asked to bear the cost of reduced flour prices in Central and North Queensland when the same result can be obtained by milling locally produced wheat in Central Queensland. The suggestion implicit in the Honourable Member's Question that the State Government Insurance Office has neglected investment in Co-operative Housing Societies and in Local Government debentures is quite unworthy of him. The State Government Insurance Office was the largest single supporter of Co-operative Housing Societies in 1964-65, when it invested £1,317,000 in such societies. It is by far the greatest supporter from the ranks of the insurers in the debenture field and in 1964-65 made debenture offers totalling some £3,004,698. Indeed, the Office was the third highest supporter of debenture raisings from all sources in 1964-65. However, the Office follows no narrow investment policy. Development of the State and the securing of reciprocal insurance business are equally important. I would remind the Honourable Member that the Office operates in a highly competitive field and the interest of policy-holders is the first consideration. Whether advances will be made to other mills in Central and North Queensland will depend on what applications are received and what security is offered. Each application will be subject to careful consideration by the newly-appointed Investment Board."

TEMPORARY PREFABRICATED SCHOOL CLASSROOMS

Mr. Newton, pursuant to notice, asked The Minister for Education,—

(1) What is the number of temporary prefabricated classrooms purchased by his Department as at September 30, 1965?

(2) How many are being used in the metropolitan area and at which schools?

Answers:—

(1) "130 classrooms."

(2) "(i) 46 classrooms. (ii) Brisbane State High School, 12; Coorparoo State High School, 8; Everton Park State High School, 2; Hendra State High School, 2; Inala State High School, 4; Newmarket State High School, 2; Sunnybank State High School, 2; Wynnum North State High School, 4; Acacia Ridge State School, 2; Kenmore State School, 2; Mt. Gravatt Upper State School, 2; Serviceton South State School, 4."

SHORTAGE OF RADIOTHERAPISTS, QUEENSLAND RADIUM INSTITUTE

Mr. Aikens, pursuant to notice, asked The Minister for Health,—

(1) Has his attention been drawn to articles in the metropolitan press of October 27 and 28 wherein Professor M. M. Kligerman, Yale University School of Medicine and world authority on radiotherapy, was reported as saying, *inter alia,* that the Queensland Radium Institute was understaffed and as a result specialists who should visit country areas at least once a week made wholly inadequate visits every two months?

(2) How frequently do specialists from the institute visit Townsville and will he consider having these visits made more frequently?

Answer:—

(1 and 2) "It is a fact that there is a shortage of radiotherapists on the staff of the Queensland Radium Institute and this shortage is a reflection of an Australia-wide, if not a world-wide, shortage of medical officers specialising in the treatment of patients by radiotherapy. Visits are made to country centres as frequently as the work load at the main centre will permit. At the present time, radiotherapists from the main centre visit far northern sub-centres which includes Townsville, five times per year. More frequent visits will be paid to these sub-centres when the staff of radiotherapists can be increased. As the Honourable Member is probably aware, radium clinics have been conducted every week for a number of years at Townsville Hospital by a member of the part-time medical staff of that hospital."

INDICTABLE OFFENCES HEARD BEFORE SUPREME AND DISTRICT COURTS

Mr. Bromley, pursuant to notice, asked The Minister for Justice,—

(1) How many indictable offences were dealt with in the Supreme and District Courts during the years 1962 to 1965?

(2) What were the various offences committed and the sentences imposed?